

Old Stone Mill

Ralston

Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-339

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14-RAL

1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Old Stone Mill
Ralston
Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey

Owner: ~~Margarette Potter~~ F. LE MOYNE PAGE

Date of Erection: About 1770-1775

Architect:

Builder: John Logan (Tradition)

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - stone with
frame gable in west elevation

Interior walls - no construction

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

According to Mr. C. C. Davis of Ralston who has written a history of this district and an article about this mill, the structure was built about 1770 by John Logan. He claims that Logan supplied the Continental Army while encamped at Morristown and later presented a thirty thousand dollar claim against the government which was never paid. Logan failed and on January 1, 1786 John Ralston bought the mill at sheriff sale. There are no records at either Morristown or Trenton that can be said to definitely prove his statements. However, he got his story from John L. Nesbit, a son-in-law of Ralston. The

Morristown records list the name of several Logans, among them George Logan of Stenton and one in 1777 for John Logan, Gentleman of Philadelphia.

The Morris County records show that on August 15, 1839 Margaret Ralston, who was the wife of John Ralston, and his son, also a John, transferred the mill to Henry Richards. The following year by sheriff's deed John W. Leddle (or Leddell) became the owner. He left it to his son Samuel and in 1888 Samuel's daughter Margaret De Hott transferred it to her sister Sarah. On April 2, 1900 Sarah Leddle, then Sarah Davis, sold the property to Oscar Forsythe. There have been five transfers since that date. The present owner received title from her husband J. H. N. Potter.
PURCHASED JUNE 1939 BY F. LE MOYNE PAGE.

Bibliography:

Information from Mr. C. C. Davis, Ralston

A search of Morris County records by
Frank P. Caulfield, Essex County Office

Walter E. Rutt
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
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District Officer